

To the Honorable Commissioners of the FCC:

As a host and engineer at two non-commercial educational radio stations since 1994, I have witnessed first hand the very limited access to the public airwaves possessed by the average American, and the increasingly lopsided competition for listeners and sponsors between community-based broadcasters and vast transnational media conglomerates. Limited access and unfair competition are issues, of prime concern to me, that the FCC should properly seek to address and erase. As broadcast stations come under the control of increasingly large, interlinked conglomerates, the variety of cultural and public affairs programming has been documented to decline by research groups such as the Future of Music Coalition. On-air opportunities for private citizens, non-profit organizations, schools and small businesses are being eroded.

The FCC's broadcast media ownership rules are just the beginning of the critical task before the FCC to provide and promote public access to the public airwaves. I am voicing my support to retain and enhance FCC rules setting limits on concentration of the broadcast industry and preserving diversity of ownership in the broadcast marketplace. These rules are; The Television-Radio Cross-Ownership Rule, The Broadcast-Newspaper Cross Ownership Ban, The National Television Ownership Rule, The Duopoly Rule for Radio, The Local Television Ownership Rule, and The Dual Network Rule.

Thank you,

Mark F. Burdett